L. S.

Josiah H. Benton Fd.
Dec. 20, 1939
WA

By His Excellency Sir William Howe of the most Honourable Order of the Bath, General and Commander in Chief of all His Majestys Forces within the Colonies lying on the Atlantic Ocean, from Nova Scotia to West Florida inclusive &c. &c. &c.

To Alexander Innes Esquire

Whereas, the Provinciale Corps now raising for His Majestys Service, under my Command in North-America, do require some Person of Activity and Judgement, to inspect into the State of the Soldiers, into the Numbers actually recruited, and their fitness for Service, into their Arms, Equipment, Cloathing &c. &c. and to attend to their good Order and Discipline —

By Virtue of the Power and Authority in me vested, I do hereby Constitute and Appoint you to be Inspector General with the Rank of Lieutenant Colonel of all Provincials raised and to be raised within the above District under my Command. You are therefore carefully and diligently to discharge the Duty of Inspector General as aforesaid, by doing and performing all and all manner of Things thereunto belonging. And all the Provincial Officers and Soldiers whom it may concern, are to obey you, and all orders you shall give in the Discharge of this Duty, as if proceeding immediately from the General or ~~Commander in Chief~~ — and you are to follow such orders and directions from Time to Time as you shall receive from the General or Commander in Chief of His Majestys Forces in North America now and for the Time being; and for the Doing of the Trust hereby reposed in you, you are to receive Twenty Shillings Sterling p. day —

Given under my Hand and Seal at Head Quarters in New York, the Twenty Ninth Day of January, One Thousand Seven Hundred and Seventy Seven, and in the Seventeenth Year of the Reign of our Sovereign Lord George the Third, by the Grace of God of Great Britain, France and Ireland King — Defender of the Faith and so forth

By His Excellencys Command

(signed)

Robert Mahinzie —

(signed)

William Howe

Commission

Sir Will: Howe's Commander
in Chief in North America &c. &c.

Constituting

Alexander Innes Esq.r
to be Insp.r General &c

New York 29th Janu.y
1777

&

for the Guidance
of his Deputies

RW 415B MS. Acc. 1328